

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 130677

12
ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RSMITH:SM
APPROVED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY
AF/E:WBCOOTE
L/AF: MR. HUFFMAN
S/CCT:AMB. HOFFACKER
AF:DBEAS M
S/S-O: P.SARROS

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R 182353Z JUN 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

S E C R E T STATE 130677

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, SU
SUBJECT: SENTENCING OF KHARTOUM TERRORISTS

REF: (A) KHARTOUM 1276; (B) CAIRO 4094; (C) KHARTOUM 1420

1. DEPARTMENT HAS CAREFULLY REVIEWED AMBASSADOR'S RECOMMENDATION (REFTEL A) THAT HE BE INSTRUCTED TO DELIVER A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT NIXON TO NIMEIRI SUBSEQUENT TO JUDICIAL DECISION IN TERRORIST TRIAL. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT PRESENTATION OF LETTER FROM U.S. PRESIDENT AT THAT JUNCTURE LIKELY TO BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND WOULD BE WIDELY INTERPRETED IN ARAB WORLD, PERHAPS IN SUDAN ITSELF, AS UNDUE PRESSURE. IF LETTER ITSELF SHOULD BECOME PUBLIC, IT WOULD BECOME THAT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT FOR NIMEIRI NOT TO LIGHTEN SENTENCES SUBSTANTIALLY AS DEMONSTRATION HIS INDEPENDENCE. HIS CONCERN ABOUT THIS SEEMS EVIDENT FROM INTERVIEW WITH MICHELMORE (REFTEL B).

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2. AS ALTERNATIVE, ASSUMING GUILTY VERDICT, WE PREFER

THAT AMBASSADOR MAKE ORAL DEMARCHE TO NIMEIRI ON INSTRUCTIONS OF USG ALONG LINES PARA 3, REFTEL A.
AMBASSADOR SHOULD USE HIS DISCRETION IN TIMING DEMARCHE SO AS TO EXTENT POSSIBLE TO AVOID OBVIOUS TEMPORAL CONNECTION BETWEEN TRIAL VERDICT AND AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST TO SEE NIMEIRI. IN EVENT MEETING GETS PRESS ATTENTION, DISCUSSION OF OTHER SUBJECTS (E.G., U.S. ASSISTANCE) MAY

PROVIDE BASIS FOR DESCRIBING MEETING AS CONCERNED WITH U.S.-SUDANESE RELATIONS GENERALLY.

3. WE REALIZE THAT COURSE OF EVENTS THUS FAR HAS INDICATED THAT NOT GUILTY VERDICT IS UNLIKELY. IF, HOWEVER, VERDICT IS NOT GUILTY, AMBASSADOR SHOULD PLAN TO RETURN TO U.S. FOR CONSULTATIONS. IN SUCH EVENT OUR PRESS STATEMENT WILL INDICATE THAT AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN RECALLED. SISCO

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, DEMARCHE, POLITICAL TRIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RSMITH:SM
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Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740159-0783
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PINS, SU, US
To: KHARTOUM
Type: TE
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